

Message Text

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61

ACTION OPIC-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-07 /024 W
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R 311715Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6105

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EINV MO

SUBJECT: OPIC FORM 50 AND REGISTRATION NOTICE 608-76-004:
MOROCCO

PLEASE PASS ELLA E. VICK, OPIC

FOLLOWING ARE EMBASSY COMMENTS ON FORM 50 AND REGISTRATION
NOTICE FOR INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORTATION MANAGEMENT COMPANY:

1. NATURE AND PURPOSE OF PROPOSED INVESTMENT: ATTACHMENT 1
DESCRIBING INVESTMENT NOT RECEIVED. EMBASSY AWARE HOWEVER
FROM VISITS BY COMPANY OFFICERS THAT ITM IN PROCESS OF
FORMING JOINT VENTURE COMPANY (MATCO) WITH MOROCCAN PARTNERS
FOR TRANSPORTATION OF US-PROCURED MILITARY, AGRICULTURAL, AND
GENERAL GOODS AND EQUIPMENT FROM INLAND U.S. POINTS TO FINAL
ON-SPOT DELIVERY WITHIN MOROCCO. MOROCCAN PARTNERS WELL-
KNOWN TO EMBASSY AND AT LEAST ONE ALREADY ENGAGED IN SEVERAL
LARGE-SCALE VENTURES WITH OTHER U.S. AND FOREIGN PARTNERS
(INCLUDING VOLVO, GM, ALCOA, CALTEX, GOODYEAR AND CITIBANK).

2. PROBABLE BENEFITS OF PROJECT TO ECONOMY OF HOST COUNTRY:
WHILE THERE ARE MANY TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES IN MOROCCO, FEW
HAVE MAJOR INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE. NONE, AS FAR AS WE
AWARE, KNOWLEDGEABLE IN MOVING MAJOR QUANTITIES OF EQUIPMENT
FROM INTERIOR U.S. POINTS. WITH SUCH QUANTITIES OF
EQUIPMENT AND SUBSTANTIAL PROSPECTIVE U.S. WHEAT SALES
TO MOROCCO, MATCO, WITH THE TECHNICAL KNOW-HOW OF U.S. PARTNER,
COULD PLAY IMPORTANT ROLE IN PROMOTING ON-TIME DELIVERIES OF
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U.S. PRODUCTS DURING PERIOD OF CRITICAL NEED, CROWDED PORT

FACILITIES, AND GROWING INTEREST IN U.S. PRODUCTS. INSUFFICIENT
TRANSPORT HAS ALSO ALLEGEDLY BEEN ELEMENT IN LAG IN OVERSEAS
SALES OF MOROCCAN CITRUS PRODUCTS--SECOND MOST IMPORTANT
ELEMENT IN COUNTRY'S BALANCE OF PAYMENTS. MATCO MAY ALSO BE
ABLE TO PLAY A USEFUL ROLE IN BOOSTING MOROCCAN EXPORTS.
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